

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated August 10, 2005, and the Advisory Action dated December 13, 2005. This Response is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) as well as with a petition for a three-month extension of time. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-25 and 27-32 were previously pending in the application. With this Response, claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 have been amended, claims 3, 11, 19 and 27 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 33-36 have been added. No new matter has been introduced by any of the newly added amendments or claims. Thus, entry and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

I. Response To Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 3-5, 8-9, 11-13, 16-17, 19-21 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,674,731, hereafter "Bradshaw") in view of Gernert (U.S. Patent No. 6,600,734, hereafter "Gernert"). Claims 6, 14 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Gernert and further in view of Birdwell (U.S. Application No. 2001/0024435, hereafter "Birdwell"). Claims 25, 27-28, 29 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw in view of Gernert and further in view of Dillon (U.S. Patent No. 6,338,131, hereafter "Dillion"). Claim 31 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bradshaw, Gernert and Dillion and further in view of Jorgenson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,680,922, hereafter "Jorgenson"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejections for the following reasons.

To expedite prosecution, the Applicants have herein amended independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 to further distinguish the present invention from the prior art of record. More specifically, independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 have been amended to more particularly point out that the host interface is configured to directly connect the terminal to the host and to support transmission of data bursts from the terminal to the host, wherein the data burst conform with a USB standard of the host. These features of the present invention are specifically recited in claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 (as amended) and support for these claim features can be found on page 20, ¶81 of the Applicants' disclosure. None of the cited prior art, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest these features of the present invention.

Bradshaw discloses a transmission and reception of TCP/IP data over a wireless communication channel. However, the Examiner concedes that "Bradshaw fails to specifically disclose the transmission of data bursts from the terminal to the host." See Advisory Action, Page 3. Therefore, it logically follows that Bradshaw cannot disclose all the elements recited in claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 (as amended).

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Gernert at col. 10, lines 44-52 to allegedly solve the deficiencies of Bradshaw. Gernert discloses a system for interfacing a wireless LAN with a wired voice telecommunications system (col. 1, lines 21-26). However, at col. 10, lines 44-52 Gernert teaches that in order for access points (e.g., 50, 60) to connect with other access points (e.g., 50, 60) on the network, the apparatus 50 may contain Ethernet, IEEE 802.X or similar data port 96, and that a USB can also be used. Therefore, in Gernert it is contemplated that the USB connection is used to directly connect an access point to another access point, not for directly connecting an access point to a host. Therefore, Gernert falls short of the present invention for at least two reasons. First, the interface directly between the host and access point (i.e., terminal) is not a USB interface. Second, the USB interface relied on by the Examiner is used only for directly connecting access points.

Moreover, after a detailed review of Birdwell, Dillion and Jorgenson, the references do not overcome the deficiencies noted above in Bradshaw and Gernert. Accordingly, even if one of ordinary skill in the art were to combine the teachings of Bradshaw, Gernert, Birdwell, Dillion and Jorgenson, the combination still would not disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 (as amended). In particular, a host interface or method of interfacing configured to directly connect the terminal to the host and to support transmission of data bursts from the terminal to the host, wherein the data burst conform with a USB standard of the host.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 are now believed to be distinguishable over the prior art of record. Likewise, dependent claims 4-8, 12-16, 20-24 and 28-32 are also believed to be distinguishable over the prior art of record based on their respective dependencies on independent claims 1, 9, 17 and 25.

II. New Claims

Claims 33-36 are directed to the use of USB super frames by the host interface. More specifically, USB super frames are used by the host interface to send large amounts of data in USB bursts to the host. The payload of the super frames are IP datagrams with an IP header. Support for the new claims can be found on page 20, ¶81 of the Applicants' disclosure. None of the cited prior art, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest the features recited in the new claims.

III. Conclusion

In light of the above, the Applicants submit that claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, 20-25 and 28-36 of the present application are both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn and a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket number PD-200323 (115426-531) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGHES NETWORK SYSTEMS

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